



IBFN Board meeting August 2008

Attending Board: Fred Iantorno, Frank Labanowski, Robert Bobich, Rich Miller, Mike Sledden, Jim Nelson, Milt Waltermire, Mike Daniel and Jim McCune.

Absent Board: Jim Blumenstein

Fred opened the meeting at 6:45

Minutes review

The board reviewed the minutes from July and a motion was made to accept them as printed. The motion was seconded and all were in favor.

Treasurers Report

Jim handed out the balance sheet for July to date. He stated we had expenses for the State Qualifier that were \$5,200.00, general expenses of \$683.85, youth and conservation expenses of \$1445.60 and that leaves us with \$9393.31 in the bank. The board reviewed the balance sheet and a motion was made to accept the report seconded and all were in favor.

Conservation Report

Milt stated that as of July 16th the state has not replenished the 14 million dollars they took from the IDNR but they did approve 500 million to other areas.

Milt passed out some information about a small mouth hatchery that is asking for help from the IBFN or BASS to continue their work. They are located in Sugar Grove. Milt will get more information about the hatchery and report back to the board. If it is something we want to get involved in and see what help we may provide then possibly we can apply for a grant to assist them with their efforts.

Milt said he received 2 requests for approval for conservation projects. One is from Great Lakes Bassmasters and I have received a letter from the Cook County Forest Preserve that states their participation in putting 112 line recycling stations as their project. The other is from Northern Illinois Crank’N Bass for a project they completed on Lake Waterford which included shore line vegetation planting. A letter was received confirming their participation in the project as well. Neither club has requested matching funds for their projects. I have informed both clubs that the projects are approved.

Milt stated that North Shore has not yet responded to his email replying to their request for approval that was discussed last month. If you recall we approved their project but not the matching funds.

Frank suggested that we write an article about all of the clubs that completed a project. Milt said he will write an article showing all of the good projects that have been completed including all of the Casting Kids events as well.

Milt stated that there should be no problem getting the permit for the launch at Spring Valley for the COS Championship.

Youth Report

Jim stated that he has a meeting with Steve Ganaway from the IHSA coming up on Tuesday. Steve is looking for information as to how the IBFN can help with the program. They will need help with the sectional tournaments as well as the state finals. Some schools still need coaches, volunteers with boats and some instructional help as well. Jim said he has a questioner to put on the web site for the clubs interested in helping out. The INSA will need the information by the middle of September so they can compile a list of clubs that will help out. Jim said he will call each club and see if there is interest. The state IHSA finals will be on May 7th and 8th. Each high school can send 2 teams of 3 students. Two of them would fish and 1 would be an alternate. Jim will report back to the board on the meeting.

Unique Bassmasters contacted Jim and asked for approval on a youth project that would be a fishing seminar. Jim told him that it would not qualify but if he held a casting kids event during the seminar that would do it. He has not heard back from them yet.

Jim said he went with the Jr. to the Regional and had a great time. The kids got a chance to pre-fish too. Zack finished 14th place. It was disappointing that the pros did not do such a good job interacting with the kids. Jim O'Malley was great with the kids as well.

Sponsorship Report

Bob said he received a check from Anthony Acres for \$300 for sponsorship. He has a meeting set up with Frank Hyla at Riverview Marine about their sponsorship and getting our video show on Frank's show. The rest of the rods came in and he will get them passed out to the winners in the COS who have not received one yet.

Region Report

Region 1. Mike S. said that nothing is going on right now in region one. He was very impressed with the COS on Pool 14 that Twin Rivers held.

Region 2. Rich M. said that he had a problem with his boat and had to be towed in and several boats were damaged by wing dams and stumps at that COS. Rich stated that he has heard that we should have more publicity on the COS. Fred said that Rich should go back to them and ask if they want to help out with this. Fred continued, we are always open for help with the COS by the members fishing it. We currently post all of the stats on the web site along with pictures.

Region 3. Mike S. stated that he has heard nothing back yet from the club in region 4. Nothing else is going on right now.

Tournament Report

Bob said that the Divisional went great. Everyone supported each other as a team sharing information and baits. Some of the other state teams went there to practice for several weeks on a row before the tournament. The accommodations were great and the team held several meetings to pass on helpful information. Everyone represented Illinois very well they looked and acted very professionally. After the first day the team was in 5th place and felt very confident. Unfortunately at the end of the tournament we were in last place. Congratulation to Jim O'Malley for doing a great job.

Ed Bohn was protested against from his non boater the last day because he denied the non boater the front of the boat. Apparently the non boater wanted to go to a spot that he fished the first day were the other boater took him. Ed denied the front of the boat to the non boater. Nothing came of the protest and it was dropped by the tournament committee.

Fred stated that since we only have 7 teams entered in the CWC qualifier. We need to discuss the cancelation of the state CWC qualifier tournament. Milt made a motion to cancel the tournament seconded and all were in favor. If BASS changes the rules and allows more teams from our state then all 7 will be able to go to the BCWC divisional.

Fred stated that the Skeeter boat for Jim O'Malley to use for the BASS National is all set up. Frank said he would notify Jim about this and tell him to get in touch with Fred for more details.

New Business

Auction Boat

The Skeeter boat for auction is set up it will be an 18 footer with a 150 hpr motor with electronics on the dash.. We now need to get the information out to the members on the web site. The boat retails for about \$32,000.00. A motion was made to start with a minimum bid for the boat at \$19,500.00. The motion was seconded and all were in favor. It was agreed that the auction will begin immediately. Fred will post it on the web site and the deadline for a bid will be November 15th.

COS

Frank said we need to get the entry fees collected for the COS championship. A motion was made to have a deadline of October 1st for these fees (150.00 per COS member). The motion was seconded and all were in favor.

Jim N. said we now need to make a decision about keeping the COS going for another year. This is completing the second year and that is what we committed to. Frank said that based on the participation level for this year, I do not feel participation will increase so that it will support itself. We have taken a loss for two years now and it should be dropped. At the Presidents Conference last year we set up the COS according to what the members wanted and made changes to the format to have no restriction. This did not make a large enough difference in participation to justify the continuance of the COS for next year and absorb another loss.

Jim N. said that we need to pressure BASS to bring the Weekend Series back to Illinois. Everyone agreed that we need to stay on BASS and see how far we can take it. We are here to run the organization and supply

After a long discussion a motion was made to drop the COS Tournaments for 2009 and seconded. Fred called for a vote and 7 were in favor and 1 opposed. The motion was carried.

State Qualifier 2009

Fred stated that the cost to send the team is going up and we need to look at the entry fee. Some of the other states hold 2 tournaments to select a state team and this allows them to collect more funds for their team expenses at the Divisional. After a long discussion the topic was set for the next meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn seconded and all were in favor.

The meeting ended at 9:30 PM.

Submitted by Frank Labanowski, IBFN Board Sec.